Worshipping the Worthy One

Revelation 5:1-14

Through John's eyes, in chapter four, we have beheld the glorious throne of God the Father, which is surrounded by the sevenfold glory of the Spirit of God. Now we will witness the appearing of the Son of God, who is here called "The Lamb."

In Revelation 5:1-7, a book is presented from the throne. It is actually a scroll rolled up with seven seals keeping it closed. It is a deed or contract for the earth and all of its inhabitants. In Israel the sale of land had to be made with someone in the same family – a kinsman redeemer. Only a qualified person could have right to buy the land and open the seals of the scroll which entitled them. See Ruth 4:1-12 (Boaz is a type of Christ – a kinsman redeemer. He and his wife Ruth are part of the lineage of David and of Christ – Ruth 4:11; Matthew 1:5; Micah 5:2).

See also Jeremiah 32:6-15. In verse eleven, it says that the scroll had writing on both sides so that the contents could be read without opening it. However, because it was sealed, possession of what was written was only to the one who had the right to open the seals. See our salvation: Ephesians 1:13-14 ("the redemption of the purchased possession" cp. Romans 8:23); 4:30.

These customs explain why there was a heavenly search for the only one who is worthy to open the seals that give the earth and its inhabitants as an inheritance. He is "The Lamb" who died for us and rose again: the "Son of David," from the tribe of Judah, rightful heir to the throne (Psalm 2:8; Hebrews 1:1-2). In Revelation 5:4, He is described as the "Lion of Judah" (Genesis 49:8-2) and the "Root of David" (Isaiah 11:1-10). "The Lamb of God" has the right to judge as well as redeem the earth (Revelation 6:16; 14:10; Acts 10:38-43; 17:30-31; I Thessalonians 1:10; II Thessalonians 1:7-10).

Consider the "The Lamb," who is worthy of our worship: Revelation 5:6-12; 7:9-10,17; 15:3; 17:14; 22:1-3.

Consider the redemptive aspect of "The Lamb:" Revelation 5:6; 13:8; Isaiah 53:7; John 1:29,36; I Corinthians 5:7; I Peter 1:18-20.

As the seals are opened terrible judgments will come upon the earth (Revelation 6 - 19). Yet, "The Lamb" is worshipped for His redeeming grace that He has shown to vast amounts of people (Revelation 5:9).